

Meeting July 24, 2017

The meeting of Mount Pleasant Borough Council was called to order by President Caruso 7:0pm in Council Chambers at 1 Etze Avenue, Mount Pleasant, PA 15666. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and President Caruso asked for a moment of silence for our deployed troops. President Caruso asked Borough Manager Landy to take roll call. Councilpersons present included Barnes, McCloy, Pritts and Rogacki. Mayor Lucia and Solicitor Liptak were present. President Caruso stated that a quorum is present. Councilwoman Ruszkowski arrived at 7:37pm.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to approve the minutes of July 10, 2017 since Council has been provided with a copy. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comment:

Mr. Joe Bauer, Mount Pleasant spoke about the necessity of a crosswalk at Harmon House on N. Church Street. Mr. Bauer said that Police Chief Sam came and surveyed the location and gave his approval for the cross walk and how it should be laid out. Mr. Bauer said that he has still not heard anything about when the crosswalk will be done.

Mr. Bauer said that he received quotes for the cement apron at Central Fire Station and they are less than anticipated.

Mr. Bauer said that as a volunteer for the Mount Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department he has seen some major rain events this year and a lot of flooding. The Fire Department is called to pump out basements of flood victims. Mr. Bauer suggested a solution involving Satcho Park.

There were several residents from Ramsay Terrace at the meeting to discuss flooding issues. Mr. Ben Fass, an engineer with EADES Group said that there have been several rain events this year and the current storm drains are unable to handle these severe rain falls. The Borough is looking to fix the problem but must gather information from each homeowner. Mr. Fass said that he will get the information from the people who are attending this council meeting. Mr. Fass said that during the investigation so far there does not appear to be an easy fix. The storm drains are clear and in good condition therefore the investigation needs to move outward. The individuals present each had different issues ranging from sewage to storm water issues. Mr. Jim Rega, Mullin Avenue Mount Pleasant, Mr. Nick Galley, N. Geary Street Mount Pleasant and Mr. Mark Kubasky, N. Geary Street Mount Pleasant each addressed Council with their individual problems. The individuals present are concerned about the health issues of sewage back up. Mr. Landy spoke about the possibility of a retention wall at the Mount Pleasant Cemetery. Borough Manager Landy feels that the work done in the creek by the trailer park in Mount Pleasant Township has caused the flooding problems to worsen. Backflow preventers may help the problem but they are not a guarantee.

Speakers: None

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Lucia said that he attended the State Mayor's Association Annual Conference and spoke about the discussions. Pennsylvania Speaker of the House Mike Turzai spoke about the state budget problems and the resulting funding issues for state boroughs. Another issue discussed was changing police strategies. Sharing services between municipalities was discussed and Mayor Lucia spoke about the G13 that Borough Manager Landy started. Local police departments and illegal immigrants were discussed and how the laws for traffic stops are changing rapidly.

Mayor Lucia said that the 2020 Census is coming up and he was advised to form a committee to put some facts and figures together. The census is missing a lot of people and the Borough is missing out on funding because of it.

Mayor Lucia read the following Police Report for the month of June 2017:

Mount Pleasant Police Department Report for the month of June 2017

The Department answered the following calls:

Incidents	126
Criminal Arrests	14
DUI Arrests	4

Parking Tickets Issued Boro	19
Traffic & Non-Traffic Citations	24
Assist Other Departments	17
Accidents Investigated	4

Income

Parking Meters	\$0.00
Parking Tickets	\$14.00
Parking Permits	\$0.00
Fence Permits	\$30.50
Clerk of Courts	\$190.24
Restitution to Police Department	\$75.00
Fees for Police Reports	\$0.00
District Court	\$805.03
Task Force Refund	\$0.00
Total Revenue	\$1,114.77

- Camera systems for Frick Park, Veterans Park and Willow Park Athletic Fields have been delivered and will be installed over the next two months. These cameras will link to the police cars.
- E-Citation equipment has been purchased through a grant.
- Police car computers have been updated.
- There have been several issues with a residence in the 300 block of Washington St. There have been 17 police-related incidents at one address along with several code-enforcement issues at the same residence.
- National night out will be held August 1, 2017
- An aluminum cover has been installed on the mail boxes in the municipal building.
- Crossing Guards are still needed.
- Two traffic studies were conducted.
- It was recommended that the Borough repaint the stop bars at key intersections.

Solicitor's Report: None

Treasurer's Report:

Borough Manager Landy read the following Treasurer's Report for the month of June 2017:

Mt. Pleasant Borough Treasurer's Report		Jun-17			Balance
		Prev Bal	Deposits	Disbursements	2017
General Fund Checking	PNC 00-0122-3513	50,000.00	150,220.93	150,220.93	50,000.00
General Fund Sweep	PNC 10-1149-3394	1,049,809.33	22,313.07	82,121.53	990,000.87
General Fund Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 321615	665,670.22	7,331.28	0.00	673,001.50
**Police		40,683.60			
**Streets		140,000.00			
**Contingency Fund		231,193.15			
**Infrastructure		121,588.62			
**BOMP1 Gas Well		12,483.85			
**BOMP2 Gas Well		4,762.23			
**Frick Park Gas Well		30,600.76			
**Levins		970.06			
**Surveillance Cameras		160.00			
**Early Warning Siren					
Grant		1,300.00			
**Fire		55,000.00			
**K-9		12,772.76			
**Marcellus Impact Fee Act					
13		21,486.47			
Police Parking Tickets & Meters	Scottdale Bank 1026616	23,297.53	1,768.90	593.04	24,473.39
Escrow Account	PNC Bank 10-2912-6867	6,655.70	0.00	0.00	6,655.70
Liquid Fuels PLGIT	PLGIT 56980126	150,583.38	78.49	0.00	150,661.87
Monument CD	Standard Bank 327085	6,842.85	0.00	0.00	6,842.85
Holiday Lighting Fund	Standard Bank 050004849	1,805.83	0.07	0.00	1,805.90

Payroll Fund	PNC 00-0122-6415	8,446.75	53,946.10	61,716.54	676.31
	Somerset Trust Co				
Veterans Park Fund	2003058309	6,955.44	100.00	0.00	7,055.44
Town Clock Fund	Standard Bank 0010038847	614.65	0.02	0.00	614.67
Storm Water Retrofit Phase II	PNC Bank 10-3888-4556	1,247.21	0.00	0.00	1,247.21
Police Grants	Standard Bank 0010151752	3,482.09	50.00	1,996.69	1,535.40
Turn Back Account	PNC Bank 10-7766-4491	416,569.35	180.32	0.00	416,749.67
Total General Fund Balance					2,331,320.78
Medic 10 Checking	Standard Bank 0010107643	52,325.42	74,649.20	74,381.68	52,592.94
Medic 10 Savings	Standard Bank 0310000238	131,607.91	1,021.80	0.00	132,629.71
Medic 10 Money Market	PNC Bank 10-1516-8804	5,890.88	0.24	0.00	5,891.12
Medic 10 Pittsburgh Foundation	Standard Bank 0000358253	5,648.97	0.70	0.00	5,649.67
Total Medic 10 Fund Balance					196,763.44
WWT Operational Acct	Standard Bank 0320012280	323,431.09	64,776.87	57,944.41	330,263.55
WWT Savings	Standard Bank 0050021008	180,714.13	29.71	0.00	180,743.84
WWT Budgetary Reserve	Standard Bank 0000287245	118,866.03	19.54	0.00	118,885.57
**Contingency	111,426.24				
**Infrastructure	7,469.82				
WWT Bio-Tower	Standard Bank 10127923	106,186.65	9,658.97	20,745.75	95,099.87
Total WWT Balance					724,992.83
Total Borough funds					3,253,077.05

Councilwoman Susan Ruskowski / Secretary Beverly Fedorchak

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to approve the Treasurer's Report as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 6-0.

Borough Manager Landy said that Council has been provided with the most recent Gas Well Revenue Report.

Mr. Landy said that calls regarding flooding in the Borough have risen sharply. Borough Manager Landy said that he feels Council needs to do something. Start with solving one issue at a time.

Borough Manager Landy said that he met with Mount Pleasant Windows regarding the windows in the municipal building. There are issues with the calking and they will provide an estimate to repair the windows along with replacing the one window on the second floor that is starting to rot.

Mr. Landy said that organizers for National Night Out are looking for volunteers.

Borough Manager Landy spoke about Columbia Gas and the construction on Main Street. The crews doing the work are separate crews and do not communicate with each other which causes problems. The project is almost complete and Penn Dot will come sometime in August to mill Main Street and put a smooth coat down. Penn Dot will start the project at the intersections sometime in September.

Borough Manager Landy said that Mayor Lucia was instrumental in bringing Lowes to the Borough to do work at Frick Park. Lowes has said that they will redo Frick Park at no cost to the Borough. A meeting was held with representatives from Lowes, Mayor Lucia, Councilwoman Barnes and Mr. Landy to discuss changes. The equipment will be rearranged so that the park is laid out according to age group.

Mr. Landy continued his report with the following:

- Meeting with Republic Services regarding starting garbage pickup too early in the morning.
- Costs for decals and lights for newly purchased borough vehicles are being researched.
- Met with representatives from Petrackas who are doing additional sewage work on Main Street about costs for the project.
- Meetings were held with Ryan King from Medic 10 and their finances are continuing to improve.
- A meeting was held with Mr. John Vance regarding backup personnel at the WWT Plant.
- Manager meeting was held with Andy Zelinsky, Jeff McGuinness, Police Chief Sam and Borough Manager Landy.
- Summer help at the Street Department will concentrate on working at Frick Park until it is complete. Street Department personnel, Peter Mullin and Lowes will coordinate improvements at Frick Park.
- Work at Jack Bobb's Park is continuing.
- Jennifer Miller of the Westmoreland Food Bank would like permission to paint the town orange in September.

Borough Manager Landy read a letter from Beverly Fedorchak stating that she will retire as a full-time employee at the end of January 2018. Ms. Fedorchak will work part-time as long as needed.

Mr. Landy said that the ideal situation would be to hire someone to replace Ms. Fedorchak three months before her retirement date so there is adequate time for the new person to be trained.

President's Report: None

Waste Water Treatment Report:

Councilman Rogacki said that Andy Zelinsky has been doing a very good job as interim WWT Superintendent. Mr. Zelinsky has been working to camera lines to try to determine the flooding issues at Ramsay Terrace.

Mayor Lucia asked for the status of the situation with Mr. Mike Koehler on Church Street. Jetting the problem line was discussed.

Streets Report:

Councilwoman Barnes said that she spoke with Councilwoman Bailey regarding vegetation on the corner of Church Street and Smithfield Street.

Borough Manager Landy said that the paving project is complete and work will start on tar and chipping designated streets.

Public Safety Report: None

Mayor Lucia said that he has received complaints from Ridgeview Apartments that they do not have bus service because the Transit Authority states there is not enough room for a bus to get in and out. Mayor Lucia said that the Fire Department has taken a truck that is larger than any bus to Ridgeview Apartments and has no problem getting in and out. Mayor Lucia said that if the Borough puts a stop sign two ways on Hemlock and Church Streets that meet state requirements any bus coming out of Ridgeview Apartments would have a three-way stop sign. Police Chief Sam is looking at the possibility.

Policies Report: None

Zoning & Ordinance Report:

Councilman McCloy read a report from Councilwoman Stevenson that stated the recent meeting with the Landlord Association ended without any input from the landlords. Councilman McCloy stated that he feels there will be changes made to the Landlord Ordinance but more work needs to be done.

Councilman McCloy presented Council with an example of a Noise/Nuisance Ordinance he would like to see adopted. President Caruso said that he was informed that if someone is affecting the quality of your life with noise or nuisance you can bring a civil suit against them with the Magistrate.

Councilman McCloy reminded the public that the Mount Pleasant Community Yard Sale will be held on August 12, 2017.

Community & Economic Development/Grants Report:

Borough Manager Landy said that the CDBG Grant Application is due at the end of September 2017. Any council person who has something they want to apply for can contact Councilwoman Bailey. Just keep in mind that only certain things are eligible for CDBG grant funds.

Councilman Rogacki asked about the possibility of using the crack sealer to repair the Frick Park Basketball Court. Borough Manager Landy said that the cost would be \$7,000 but we do not have the equipment. Councilman Rogacki said that the Borough may be able to rent the equipment. Mr. Landy said that there are already two big projects in the parks but he feels that the money is in the budget to repair the basketball court and we should get it done as soon as possible.

Parks & Recreation/Veterans Park Report:

Councilwoman Barnes thanked Mayor Lucia and Borough Manager Landy for attending the registration for Teen Council. Three young people showed up for the registration and Councilwoman Barnes said that she expects more to register.

Councilwoman Barnes said that she is excited about Lowes doing Frick Park and she discussed the fencing at the playground area and they said that they will take care of that also.

Finance & Human Resources Report:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to hire Mr. John Trout, Mount Pleasant PA for the part-time position with WWT at an hourly rate of \$10 per hour. Motion seconded by Councilman Pritts. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ruszkowski to hire Mr. Shane Nickelson, Connellsville PA to the position of WWT Superintendent at an hour rate of \$27.50 per hour including benefits. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy.

A motion was made by Councilman Rogacki for an Executive Session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 6-0.

Executive Session 9:24 to 9:31pm.

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to reconvene the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman McCloy. Motion carried 6-0.

Councilman Rogacki requested a roll call vote. The following are the votes to hire Mr. Nikelson.

Councilman Barnes - No
Councilman McCloy – Yes
Councilman Pritts – Yes
Councilman Rogacki – No
Councilwoman Ruszkowski – Yes
President Caruso – Yes

Motion carried 4-2.

Property Report:

Councilman Rogacki asked for an update on the roof repair at Medic 10. Borough Manager Landy said that he is having someone look at the problem and he will get back to him.

Borough Manager said that there is water coming into the Police Department and the problem may be coming from the restrooms at Frick Park. Andy Zelinsky, WWT said that he can put dye in the line and see where the problem is.

New Business: None

Reading of Communications:

Borough Manager Landy read the following communications:

- Penn Dot sent the Winter Maintenance Agreement that needs to be initialed and sent back. This year the amount they will pay the Borough for winter maintenance on state roads in the Borough is \$10,554.32.
- There will be a public officials briefing about the Laurel Valley Transportation Improvement Project on Wednesday July 26, 2017 beginning at 3pm.

Discussion & Payment of Bills:

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to pay all approved and authorized bills. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ruszkowski. Motion carried 6-0.

Miscellaneous & Adjournment:

A motion was made by Councilman Pritts to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Rogacki. Motion carried 6-0.

Meeting Adjourned 9:48pm.

Motions From Meeting of July 24, 2017

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